

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05
SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 JUSE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 726
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5356

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDO-US NUCLEAR RELATIONS

1. M.V. KAMATH, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FOR THE "TIMES OF INDIA", REPORTED APRIL 6 THAT IF THE EEC DOES NOT OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US BY APRIL 9 ON NEW SAFEGUARDS FOR US-SUPPLIED NUCLEAR FUEL, THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION WILL BE OBLIGED BY THE 1978 NON-PROLIFERATION ACT TO HALT SHIPMENTS OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO THE COMMUNITY. KAMATH STATES THAT THIS "ARBITRARY ACT", UNDER WHICH THE USG IS SEEKING TO RENEGOTIATE A NUCLEAR FUEL SUPPLY AGREEMENT SCHEDULED TO RUN UNTIL 1995, GIVES THE US A VETO OVER THE EXPORT OF NUCLEAR FUEL BY THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES AND ALSO OVER THE REPROCESSING OF THIS FUEL. FRANCE HAS TAKEN THE LEAD IN BLOCKING NEW NEGOTIATIONS, KAMATH SAYS; HE ALSO REFERES TO A "CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR" REPORT FROM BONN SAYING THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT IS "INCENSED" AT "AMERICA'S UNILATERALISM."

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2. SINCE THE GOI MAY RAISE THIS ARTICLE WITH US, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE BEYOND THAT AVAILABLE IN THE ANALYSIS OF THE NEW LEGISLATION ALREADY SENT US.

3. MEANWHILE, EASWAR SAGAR REPORTED IN THE APRIL 5

"HINDU" THAT THE NRC'S "SEEMINGLY UNCONSCIONABLE DELAY IN EVEN TAKING A DECISION TO TAKE A DECISION HAS GIVEN GROUND TO THE FEELING THAT THE PROCRASTINATION IS DELIBERATE AND THAT IT IS INTENDED TO PUT PRESSURE ON INDIA ON THE LARGER ISSUE OF FULLSCOPE SAFEGUARDS." SAGAR THOUGHT THAT OPPONENTS OF INDO-US NUCLEAR COOPERATION MIGHT BE TRYING TO KEEP THE SHIPMENT OF 7.6 TONS OF ENRICHED URANIUM FOR TARAPUR A LIVE ISSUE DURING PM DESAI'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON.

4. SOME OTHER PAPERS, AMONG THEM THE "INDIAN EXPRESS", REPORTED THE NRC'S INDECISION WITHOUT DRAWING THE SAME CONSPIRATORIAL CONCLUSION.

GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

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